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cephalus, which is possibly temnospondylous, occurs first in the Upper Carboniferous. A close parallel of this is found in the discovery of *Eryops* by Case[2] in the Upper Pennsylvanian of Pennsylvania. The progress of discovery is thus forcing further and further back into geological time the origin of the Amphibia. We now know nearly all of the types of the so-called Stegocephala from the Carboniferous and some of them occur well down in the system.

The results given by Broili are based in large part on the geological and paleobotanical studies of Weithofer and Feistmantel. The report is a lengthy one and occupies some twenty pages, including lists of the vertebrates and the plants which occur in the "Gaskohle schichten."

Bison occidentalis.—In the last issue of the *Kansas University Science Bulletin* Dr. C. E. McClung[1] has described and figured a mounted skeleton of *Bison occidentalis*. This specimen was first noted by Williston in 1902.[2] It was later[3] described by Stewart as belonging to the species *B. antiquus* which is now assigned to *B. occidentalis*. The skeleton has only recently been mounted by Mr. H. T. Martin and is noteworthy as being the only mounted skeleton of a Pleistocene bison. The specimen is further noteworthy because of an arrow point found under the right scapula as if it had been imbedded in the flesh before death. From his study of the mounted skeleton Dr. McClung reaches the conclusion that the extinct species was of a more cursorial type than is the modern *Bison bison*.

Nectosaurus.—Three years ago Dr. J. C. Merriam[1] gave to the world a memoir on a peculiar group of marine reptiles which he had discovered in the Triassic rocks of California and to which he gave the appropriate name of Thalattosauria. He has recently[2] added to the knowledge of the Thalattosauria by additional notes on the anatomy of Nectosaurus. From his recent studies Merriam concludes that Nectosaurus is a shore dwelling form and the evidence seems strong enough to warrant

[2] *Annals Carnegie Museum*, Vol. IV, No. III–IV, 1908.

[1] *Kans. Univ. Sci. Bull.*, Vol. IV, No. 10.

[2] *Amer. Geol.*, Vol. XXX, International Congress of Americanists, 1902.

[3] *Kansas Univ. Quarterly*, 1897.

[1] *Memoirs Calif. Acad. Science*, Vol. V, No. 1.

[2] *University of California Publications, Geology*, Vol. 5, No. 13.

the conclusion that Nectosaurus is not a young form of Thalattosaurus as the author suspected when he wrote his memoir on the Thalattosauria.

Callibrachion.—F. von Huene has restudied[1] the original specimen of *Callibrachion gaudryi* Boule and Glan. from the figure published in *Mem. Soc. d'Hist. Nat. d'Autun,* 1893, Taf. 3, and has republished this figure as a page plate. He was led to this study by the fact that the three incongruous characters of coronoid process of the mandible, opisthocœlous cervicals and the presence of only about 20 presacral vertebræ being assigned to the form and on these characters it had been assigned to the Protorosauria by earlier authors and later to the Pelycosauria and here it is placed by Case in his "Revision of the Pelycosauria." Huene comes to the conclusion that the form is a close relative of Paleohatteria

> "Hieraus folgt, dass Callibrachion nicht zu den Pelycosaurien gehören kann, sondern sich Paleohatteria sehr nahe anschliesst und wohl als einer ihrer direkten Nachkommen aufzufassen ist."

He is then of the opinion that the earlier authors were right in assigning Callibrachion to the Protorosauria. There are 23 presacral vertebræ whch are amphicœlous as in the Paleohatteria. The coronoid process is wanting in Callibrachion.

ROY L. MOODIE.

PARASITOLOGY

The Sleeping Sickness Bureau, recently established in London, has begun the publication of a bulletin. The first number (October, 1908) is devoted to a review of the "Chemotherapy of Trypanosomiasis." The treatment of trypanosomiasis in man, the biological accommodation of trypanosomes to chemotherapeutic agents and the treatment of experimental animals are considered in succession. A bibliography of some 200 titles concludes the number. Future issues of the bulletin will include all the current literature of trypanosomiasis.

The following items excerpted from the summary of this mass of experimental material are of primary biologic interest. The use of any trypanocide by itself can not be justified. Combined therapy has the advantage that each drug can be used in smaller doses. The alternation of trypanocidal agents avoids the habituation of the parasites to a single remedy which has been thor-

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[1] *Centralblatt für Mineral. Geol. Paleontologie,* 1908, No. 17.